



Social Outcomes Conference 2025

WELCOME

4-5th September



@Government Outcomes Lab



golab.bsg.ox.ac.uk





Welcome to the 8th edition of the Social Outcomes Conference















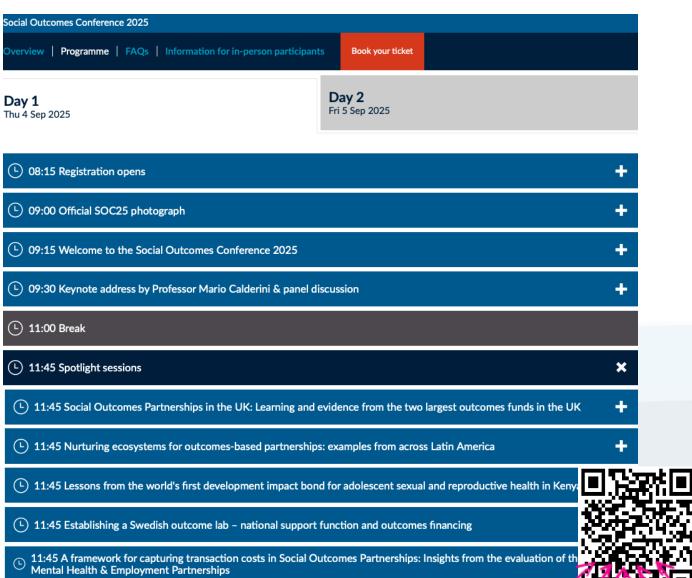




SOC25 at a glance



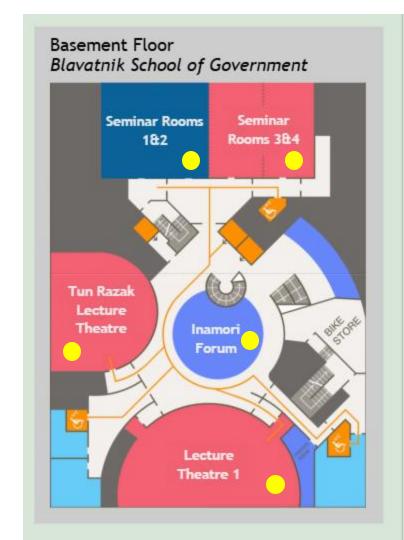
- 30 sessions
- 75 speakers from 25 countries
- 500+ participants online& in-person
- 20+ posters at the Social Impact Gallery
- Book launch

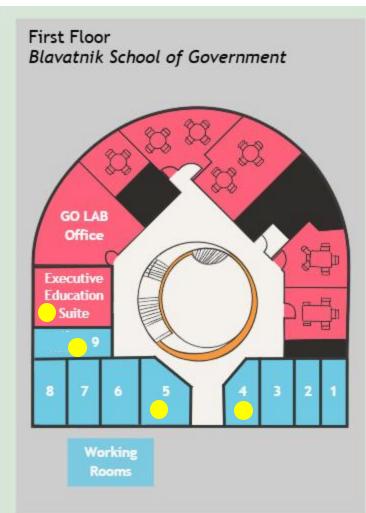


SOC25 at a glance



- 4 x Workshops (Day 1)
- 8 x Spotlight sessions (Day 1)
- 8 x Croissants & collaborations (Day 2)
- 4 x Policy Deep Dives (Day 2)





SOC25 at a glance

BLAVATNIK SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT OF OXFORD CARD

- Live from the Blavatnik School & online via Zoom
 - In person: you can still join Zoom, but please keep your audio off.
 - On Zoom: introduce yourself in the chat and make sure your name and organisation are visible.
- We will use Slido for questions from both online and inperson participants.
- Hybrid sessions will be recorded & shared on the GO Lab website, alongside the programme and slides.
- The GO Lab team is ready to help you both online and in person.















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Welcome to the Blavatnik School of Government





Professor Ngaire Woods

Founding Dean of the Blavatnik School of Government University of Oxford

Keynote





Turning Pressure into Progress: Unlocking the Next Chapter of the Impact Economy

Professor Mario Calderini

Full Professor, Director of Tiresia Politecnico di Milano, School of Management



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S.D. Shibulal

Founder, ShikshaLokam and Co-Founder, Infosys





GOVERNMENT OUTCOMES LAB



Deanna Malatesta Indiana University



SD Shibulal
The Shibulal Family
Philanthropic Initiatives



Richard HawkesBritish Asian Trust



Louisa Mitchell MBE AllChild



Dr Mara AiroldiUniversity of Oxford **Chair**



Mario Calderini Politecnico di Milano School of Management

Panel discussion







Coffee break

IN PERSON ONLY:

Spotlight Sessions 11.45am BST Lunch 12.30pm BST

ONLINE & IN PERSON Workshops 1.30pm BST

















Check out the programme & choose your session

Spotlight sessions

(in person only)

Basement Floor

Leveraging technology and machine learning for better impact measurement (evidence from Jordan and Lebanon)

Time: 11:45-12:30

Location: Seminar Room 4 (Basement floor)

Session lead: Nicolas Baumgartner (Near East Foundation)

Nurturing ecosystems for outcomes-based partnerships: examples from across Latin America

Time: 11:45-12:30

Location: Seminar Room 1 (Basement Floor)

Session leads: Flavia Tinelli (Acrux), Siegrid Holler (Instiglio)

Cash with purpose: Camden's dual pilots for pregnancy and youth employment

Time: 11:45-12:30

Location: Seminar Room 3 (Basement Floor)

Session leads: Jonathan Tan (Greater Change), Dr Jun Nakagawa

(London Borough of Camden)

A framework for capturing transaction costs in Social Outcomes Partnerships: Insights from the evaluation of the Mental Health & Employment Partnerships

Time: 11:45-12:30

Location: Seminar Room 2 (Basement Floor)

Session leads: Emily Hulse (University of Oxford)





First Floor

Social Outcomes Partnerships in the UK: Learning and evidence from the two largest outcomes funds in the UK

Time: 11:45-12:30

Location: Group Working Room 9 (First Floor)

Session leads: Andreea Anastasiu (University of Oxford), Neil Stanworth

(ATQ Consultants)

Establishing a Swedish outcome lab - national support function and outcomes financing

Time: 11:45-12:30

Location: Group Working Room 5 (First Floor)

Session leads: Tomas Bokström, Anna Balkfors & Nina Lindqvist (Public

Health Agency of Sweden)

Lessons from the world's first development impact bond for adolescent sexual and reproductive health in Kenya

Time: 11:45-12:30

Location: Group Working Room 4 (First Floor)

Session lead: Benoit Renard (Tiko)

Strengthening grassroots collective action for education in India

Time: 11:45-12:30

Location: Executive Education Seminar Room (First Floor)

Session lead: Dr Harry Bregazzi (University of Oxford), Neeraj Doddamane (ShikshaLokam), Kumari Shibulal (Shibulal Family

Philanthropic Initiatives)





Coffee break

UP NEXT:

Spotlight Sessions 11.45am BST

























Lunch

UP NEXT: Workshops from 1.30pm

























Workshops (13:30 start)

Capital for change: the investor role in social outcomes contracts

Time: 13:30 - 15:00

Location: Seminar Room 1 (Basement floor)

Chair: Jess Reedy (University of Oxford)

Speakers: Aman Johal (Better Society Capital), Joachim Werr (Utfallsfonden), Richard Hawkes (British Asian Trust), Dr Eleanor Carter (University of Oxford), Gabriele Guaita (UBS)

Prototyping the Future of Complex Public Service Contracts: Testing, Learning, and Scaling Formal-Relational Approaches

Time: 13:30 - 15:00

Location: Tun Razak Lecture Theatre (Basement floor)

Chairs: Dr Felix-Anselm van Lier and Michael Gibson (University of Oxford)
Speakers: Liam Sloan, Connie van Zanten and Cate McLaurin (Public Digital)

Outcomes-focused partnerships: Exploring pathways for impact at scale

Time: 13:30 - 15:00

Location: Seminar Rooms 3&4 (Basement floor)

Chairs: Andreea Anastasiu (University of Oxford) and Louise Savell (Social Finance)

Speakers: James Magowan (DCMS UK), Lee Whitehead (Manchester Metropolitan University), Hilary Olson (Research consultant), David Parks (The Skill Mill), Richard Germond (Save the Children), Mila Lukic (Bridges Outcomes Partnerships), Caroline Bernadi (Village Enterprise)

From reporting to value creation: impact measurement as a strategic tool in social outcome projects

Time: 13:30 - 15:00

Location: Seminar Room 2 (Basement floor)

Chairs: Tommaso Tropeano and Enrico Bellazzecca (Politecnico di Milano)

Speakers: Dale Renner (Latitude Network), Lily O'Flynn (Renaisi), Ailsa Cook (Matter of Focus), Shraddha Iyer (British Asian Trust), Ben Eyre (University of East Anglia, Dr Mara Airoldi (University of Oxford)





Capital for change: the investor role in social outcomes contracts

Chair: Jessica Reedy, University of Oxford



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Session engagement



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Capital for change: the investor role in social outcomes contracts

4th September 2025



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Meet the Government Outcomes Lab





To enable governments across the world to foster effective partnerships with the non-profit & private sectors for better outcomes



We are an international team of multi-disciplinary researchers, data specialists & policy experts

GO Lab generates actionable knowledge, offering a comprehensive and evidence-based approach to the study of cross-sector partnerships through the three main strands of our work: research, data & engagement.



HOW: Understanding Outcomes Partnerships (aka. Social Impact Bonds)





Outcome payer Identifies social or environmental issue, defines payable outcome measures, pays for achieved social outcomes

People, communities or environments who aspire to improved outcomes

Service provider
Works with
participants and
communities to
achieve outcomes
success

Investor
Provides upfront
funding for the service
provider

Partners and responsibilities in an impact bond

Much like a kaleidoscope, depending on each stakeholder's perspective, impact bonds are either:

- a) For government: a commissioning tool and potential vehicle for public service reform i.e., an opportunity to 'achieve more with less' or improve effectiveness, to achieve innovation, collaboration or prevention
- b) For funders: an accountability tool to ensure programmes achieve intended long-term outcomes;
- c) For investors: a way to align social and financial returns and offer a credible route to demonstrating impact or pursuing an impact investment strategy;
- d) For social sector delivery organisations: a multi-year funding model bringing predictable but flexible funding, the opportunity to scale up interventions and develop an evidence-base;
- e) For people participating in services funded through an impact bond: the promise is that social programmes are more attuned to their support needs, are personalised and secure meaningful involvement through 'co-production' of outcomes

WHY: Overcoming perennial challenges in public service delivery



Public service challenge

Fragmented delivery and 'siloed' budgets

Short-term focus (political & financial)

Difficulty creating change

Implications for services

Fragmented public services: duplications, gaps, inadequate communication

Reactive public services responding to crises

Poor performing services go unchanged

Implications for citizens

Fragmented, reactive, stagnant services which fail to respond to the needs of citizens

Implications for commissioners

COLLABORATION

Enable collaboration across multiple commissioners & within provider networks. Service activities 'wrap around' service users.

PREVENTION

Enable 'invest-to-save'.

Dual-running of services with (social) investors funding 'upstream' interventions.

INNOVATION

Risk transfer enables innovation. New interventions. Enhanced performance management. Systematic learning.

Capital for Change - Enabling 'partnership'?



Longevity and durability

Partnerships cannot reasonably take place in shortterm arrangements.

Emphasis on risk sharing

All parties bear parts of the risks involved.

Shared objective

'True' partners share a joint sense of purpose and have clarity over shared objective and endeavour.

Negotiation Strategies

A New Approach to Contracts

w to build better long-term strategic partnerships by David Frydlinger, Oliver Hart, and Kate Vitasek

From the Magazine (September-October 2019







Joachim Werr Utfallsfonden



Aman Johal
Better Society
Capital



Gabriele Guaita
UBS Optimus
Foundation



Richard HawkesBritish Asian Trust



Dr Eleanor CarterUniversity of Oxford



Jessica Reedy University of Oxford Chair

Capital for change: next steps







Get the memo of the key successes, barriers, and recommendation from the workshop



Continue the conversation with GO Lab or panellist



Build the community: share next steps, actions, and potential in capital for change

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Coffee break

UP NEXT:
Big Picture from 15:30

























GOVERNMENT OUTCOMES LAB

Prototyping the Future of Complex Public Service Contracts: Testing, Learning, and Scaling Formal-Relational Approaches

Co-Chairs: Dr Felix-Anselm van Lier and Michael Gibson, University of Oxford



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Outcomes-focused partnerships: Exploring pathways for impact at scale

Chairs: Andreea Anastasiu, University of Oxford & Louise Savell, Social Finance



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Chasing the Holy Grail?











Updated: Sep 26, 2024

22 August 2024

This is the second of two blogs sharing insights from a learning group on innovative finance in education, co-facilitated by the <u>Education Finance Network</u> and the <u>Education Outcomes Fund</u>. The group has brought together experts from 34 organizations in five discussion sessions over a period of nine months for an earnest exchange on opportunities





Some recurring themes



- Technical capacities AND behavioural change
- Importance of learning systems within AND across organisations
- Robust evidence generation AND compelling story-telling

- -

- Lack of single, shared understanding of what me mean by 'scale', 'mainstreaming' etc.
- Different pathways and strategies for using outcomes-based approaches to achieve impact at scale are emerging

We are making progress, but can we accelerate pace through collective learning and sharing of best practice?

Our exploration of pathways for impact at scale



Part I. Rapid fire contributions from our workshop leads: Practice, evidence & learning from the field

Part II. Group discussions: Collective learning & action

- Pathway 1 Innovation in service delivery: facilitated by
 Davie & Louise
- Pathway 2 Institutional learning within delivery organisations practices & ways of working): facilitated by Richard & Caroline
- Pathway 3 Partnerships with government (at local & central level) for system level change: facilitated by Mila
 & James
- Pathway 4 Effective ways of working at local level (within local ecosystems of provision) facilitated by Hilary & Andreea



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Our session leads







Caroline Bernadi Village Enterprise





Media and Sport



Hilary Olson Research Consultant





- Pathway 1 Innovation in service delivery:Davie
- Pathway 2 Institutional learning within delivery organisations practices & ways of working): Richard & Caroline
- Pathway 3 Partnerships with government (at local & central level) for system level change: Mila & James
- Pathway 4 Effective ways of working at local level (within local ecosystems of provision): Hilary



Learning agenda: exploring the potential benefits of outcomes contracts for Save the Children



Driving a culture of impact – incentivising a laser focus on the delivery of outcomes first and foremost



Going beyond business as usual – to ensure common blockers and challenges are quickly resolved



Designing scalable interventions – that national governments can then scale up



Measuring our impact – by rigorously measuring the quality and impact of our work on children



Driving new and innovative sources of funding towards our missions and goals



How did an Outcomes Based contract influence our Ways of Working in SLEIC?



Created a sense of **urgency** in achieving results – that drives need to consistently improve and adapt



Flexibility in budget and implementation approach provided the **conditions** to enable ongoing improvement and adaptation

Combination of urgency and flexibility led to changes in ways of working - towards learning, improvement and adaptation:

- focus on what matters
- increased ownership
- focus on data-driven learning (progress monitoring and analysis and use of data)
- efficiency of internal systems



Taking our learning forward – some potential implications and recommendations

Accountability shifts:

greater autonomy for programme teams to make decisions

System shifts:

- critically assess the flexibility and responsiveness of internal systems
- reducing multiple levels of approval

Mindset/ cultural

- establish an internal culture that builds trust
- strengthen learning culture
- embed openness to changing approaches rather than fixed pathways to deliver



THANK YOU Save the Children

Our session leads







Village Enterprise





James Magowan

Department for Culture,

Media and Sport



Hilary Olson Research Consultant



- Pathway 1 Innovation in service delivery:Davie
- Pathway 2 Institutional learning within delivery organisations practices & ways of working): Richard & Caroline
- Pathway 3 Partnerships with government (at local & central level) for system level change: Mila & James
- Pathway 4 Effective ways of working at local level (within local ecosystems of provision): Hilary



What does <u>success</u> look like for the 'pathway' you are discussing in your group?



- Pathway 1 Innovation in service delivery:
 Davie & Louise
- Pathway 2 Institutional learning within delivery organisations practices & ways of working): Richard & Caroline
- Pathway 3 Partnerships with government (at local & central level) for system level change: Mila & James
- Pathway 4 Effective ways of working at local level (within local ecosystems of provision): Hilary

What are the <u>building blocks</u> (e.g. context, activities, stakeholders) for achieving that success?





- Pathway 1 Innovation in service delivery:
 Davie & Louise
- Pathway 2 Institutional learning within delivery organisations practices & ways of working): Richard & Caroline
- Pathway 3 Partnerships with government (at local & central level) for system level change: Mila & James
- Pathway 4 Effective ways of working at local level (within local ecosystems of provision): Hilary

What is one thing that <u>YOU</u> (your organisation) can do as a concrete step towards that vision of success?





- Pathway 1 Innovation in service delivery:
 Davie & Louise
- Pathway 2 Institutional learning within delivery organisations practices & ways of working): Richard & Caroline
- Pathway 3 Partnerships with government (at local & central level) for system level change: Mila & James
- Pathway 4 Effective ways of working at local level (within local ecosystems of provision): Hilary





Your call to action

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From reporting to value creation: impact measurement as a strategic tool in social outcome projects

Chair: Tommaso Tropeano and Enrico Bellazzecca, Politecnico di Milano







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Coffee break

UP NEXT: Big Picture from 3.30pm

























GOVERNMENT OUTCOMES LAB

Big Picture: Delivery beyond deliverables: what does it take to put meaningful outcomes at the heart of public services?

Chair: Nick Joicey, University of Oxford



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Meet our panellists





Dr Eleanor CarterUniversity of Oxford



Bruno Schettini
São Paulo
Securitization Company



Tshego Walker
South Africa
Presidential Youth
Employment
Intervention



Dr Dan Honig
UCL and Georgetown
University



Nick Joicey
University of Oxford
Chair



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Celebrating nearly a decade of engaged research on outcomes-focused partnerships

Spotlighting the latest findings from GO Lab's Life Chances Fund evaluation

Since 2016...





150+ in-depth interviews

490+ survey responses (across 7 survey waves)

30+ facilitated workshops, focus groups and site visits

100,000+ views of INDIGO datasets

100+ peer learning events, advice surgeries, webinars & engaging with evidence sessions

4 GO Lab babies in the last year 🞉 🎉 🎉

Hot off the press!



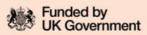




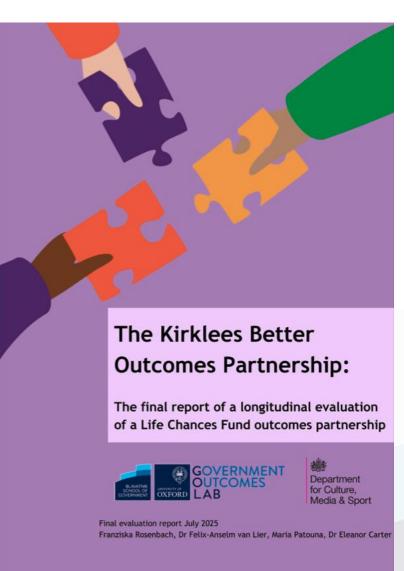
LABOUR MARKET EVALUATION PILOT FUND

Kirklees Better Outcomes Partnership: Understanding the effects of person-centred service reforms in housing support





August 2025 - Patouna, M., De Gruyter, E., and Carter, E.





The final evaluation of the Life Chances Fund outcomes partnerships

Employment Partnership:





Final evaluation report July 2025 Emily Hulse, Eve Grennan, Dr Mara Airoldi, Dr Eleanor Carter

Thank you!





Department for Culture, Media & Sport









Thank you!



Mental Health and Employment Partnership (MHEP)





Thank you, GO Labbers!





































































Up next

ONLINE: Back tomorrow at 10.30 am BST

In-PERSON: Join us in the Inamori Forum for a special celebratory moment with the GO Lab team, followed by a networking dinner in the Café.

















Day 2 Programme



07:00	Oxford landmarks run (starts at Radcliffe Camera)				
08:15	Registration opens				
08:30	Croissants & Collaborations First Floor: Executive Education Suite, Group Working Room 4, Group Working Room 5, Group Working Room 9 Basement Floor: Seminar Room 1, Seminar Room 2, Seminar Room 3, Seminar Room 4				
10:00	Break				
10:30	Big Picture: Impact economy - the what, the how, and the why Tun Razak Lecture Theatre		Big Picture: From metrics to meaning - rethinking data infrastructure for adaptive public service Lecture Theatre 1		
12:00	Lunch & Social impact poster gallery Inamori Forum				
14:00	Deep Dive: Scaling Results- Based Financing in maternal health: Lessons from Zimbabwe and South Africa Seminar Rooms 1+2	Deep Dive: Where next for international development and humanitarian aid? Seminar Rooms 3&4	Deep Dive: Building Blocks - Data and Outcomes in Education Systems Tun Razak Lecture Theatre	Deep Dive: Reimagining employment support through outcomes-based employment initiatives and relational practice Lecture Theatre 1	
15:30	Break				
16:00	Big Picture and book launch: Contracting for Public Value Lecture Theatre 1				
17:15	Book launch: Contracting for Public Value Inamori Forum				
17:45	SOC25 Closing celebration gala & remarks				